IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Larry D. Seiler et al. Examiner: Peter Pappas Application No.: 10/790,953 Art Unit: 2628 Filing Date: March 2, 2004 Docket No.: 00100.02.0004

Conf. No.: 2164

Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR HIERARCHICAL Z BUFFERING AND STENCILING

Mail Stop RCE Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Dear Sir:

In response to the Final Office Action mailed September 1, 2009, Applicants petition for a three month extension of time, submit a Request for Continued Examination and the following preliminary amendment:

Amendments to the Claims begin on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 10 of this paper.